

Web address: <http://stjameswoolton.org>

MINISTER: Revd. Peter Hughes peter.hughes@methodist.org.uk
0151 364 0134

Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.

NEWSLETTER – 24th October 2021



This Week's Collect

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lord of creation, you give new strength to our faith. Grant that we may recognise your presence in all life and history, and face our trials with serenity and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

UPCOMING PREACHERS

Sunday October 24th Revd. Paul Wilson (St James') Revd. Peter Hughes (phone)

Sunday October 31st Revd. Peter Hughes (St James') Chris CS (phone)

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello Everyone, I hope you have had a good week. For me this week has been one of Funerals, two of them at St James as we remembered the lives of Peter Sinclair and John Doig. Although each were sad occasions there was also the chance to celebrate and give thanks to God for lives that were full of loving relationships and amazing experiences. There was also the opportunity to reflect on the fact that our faith in Jesus gives us hope for all eternity, not only for our years on earth. I hope that your week has had some interesting experiences, time with those you love and moments when God has felt close to you.

God Bless Peter

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you good with numbers? St. James is looking for someone to take over the role of church treasurer.

We are also looking for someone to oversee the property management side of the connected Manse.

Are you happy to do a reading or prayers of Intercession in a service?

We have spaces in the Sunday morning service and on the Sunday afternoon telephone worship.

If you can or know someone who can help us, please phone Jayne McLaren on 07859062692 or speak to a Steward Elder. Thank you.

Women's Guild.

Sadly, our Women's Guild at St. James' will not be meeting anymore. We would like to thank all those who have been involved with this over the years and for all that it has provided for so many.

Pictures from Peter's Sabbatical

It was good to have the chance to share some stories from my Sabbatical in the Zoom meeting this week. I am hoping to find a time to repeat this "live" in Church.

This week the pictures move on to the end of June when I began my pilgrimage walk in Wales. I started off at Borth, a lovely seaside town north of Aberystwyth and close to the Dyfi (Dovey) Estuary. The first place I paused at was St Matthew's Church which sits on a rocky outcrop inland from the town itself. It has been designated as a "Peaceful Place", one of a series of Churches which welcome visitors and offer moments of quiet. In 1876, just after it was built, the Church and community of Borth welcomed boys and their families from Uppingham School who had come to avoid a typhoid outbreak in their local community. They stayed for 14 months, experiencing the hospitality of the local people. Reading about this made me reflect on all who helped others (and continue to do so) during the Covid crisis.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Special Projects Group - have planned the following events.

Please put the date in your diaries and cross your fingers that Covid does not rain on our parade!

Saturday 20th November – St James' Autumn Fayre and Gift Day

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding a St James' Autumn Fayre and Gift Day on Saturday 20th November 2021.

This will be a slightly smaller event than our normal Christmas Fair but we hope it will be a time for fellowship and we will still have all your favourites including:

- A guest appearance from Father Christmas in his Grotto plus the chance to have a photo taken with him
- Plant stall
- Fancy goods and gifts
- Homemade cakes, biscuits, sweets and preserves
- Fund raising mugs to order
- Raffles
- Light refreshments
- Colouring activities and competition for the children

We will be asking for your support a little nearer the time in providing items for us to sell on the day, but also to come and support us. We realise that not everyone will feel they are in a position to come on the day, so if you would prefer to donate either by cash, cheque or bank transfer, this would also be gratefully received.

If you feel you can help in any way please speak to Pam Bellis, Liz Hudson or Lynne Barker.

Harvest Gifts 2021

Harvest gifts of NON-PERISHABLE FOOD (tins and packets) will be collected throughout October, starting Sunday October 10th -

- in church on Sunday mornings, OR
- they can be left in Roy and Lynne Barker's porch

Cash donations in lieu can be made

- in church or
- direct to the Treasurer, Steve Elliott.
- By bank transfer as per weekly collection (ref Harvest) Or
- by cheque / post to St James Church, Church Road South, Woolton, Liverpool, L25 7RJ (please mark them 'Harvest' on the back)

All gifts will be shared between local food distribution centres and 'All We Can' (The Methodist Overseas Relief and Development Fund). Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

The Wednesday House Group

The Wednesday House group is about to start up again. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday 27 October at 7.30pm. This meeting will be in Church. Old and new members are warmly invited. Contact: Peter Bounds (421 1069)



PRAYERS NEEDED

God heals and you too can heal. God heals broken bodies, broken minds, broken hearts and broken lives.

His presence alone has immense healing powers.

You cannot be close to him without experiencing some degree of healing.

So, you may be wondering why you haven't received his healing?

You have not received it because you haven't asked for it.

You receive God's healing energy that flows naturally, whether you are seeking it or not.

But there is much more energy that is powerful and available to those who ask.

The first step to receiving this type of healing is to live closely to God.

The benefits of doing so are endless.

As you grow more intimately with God, he reveals his will to you more directly.

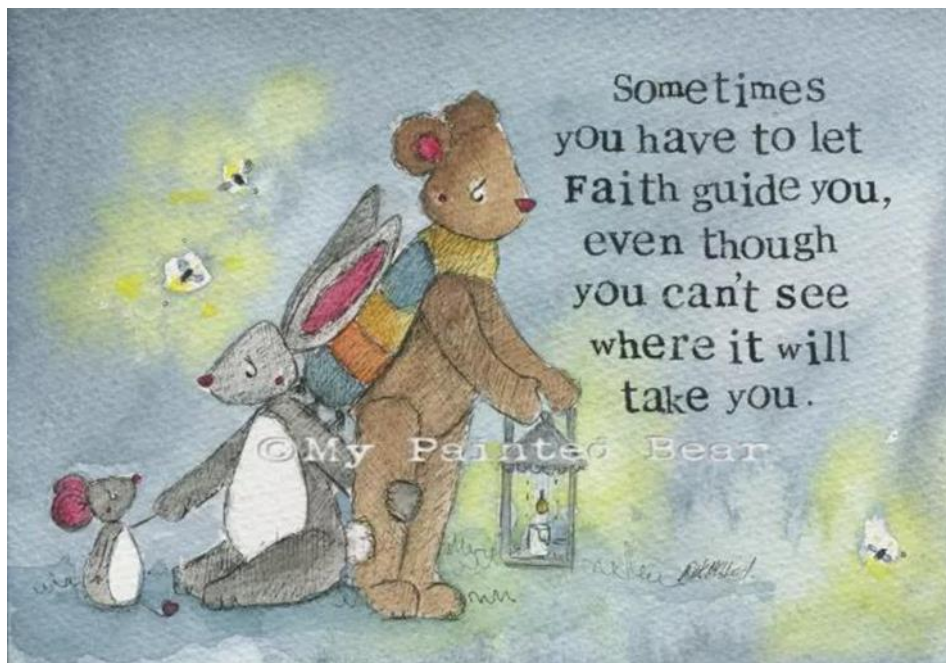
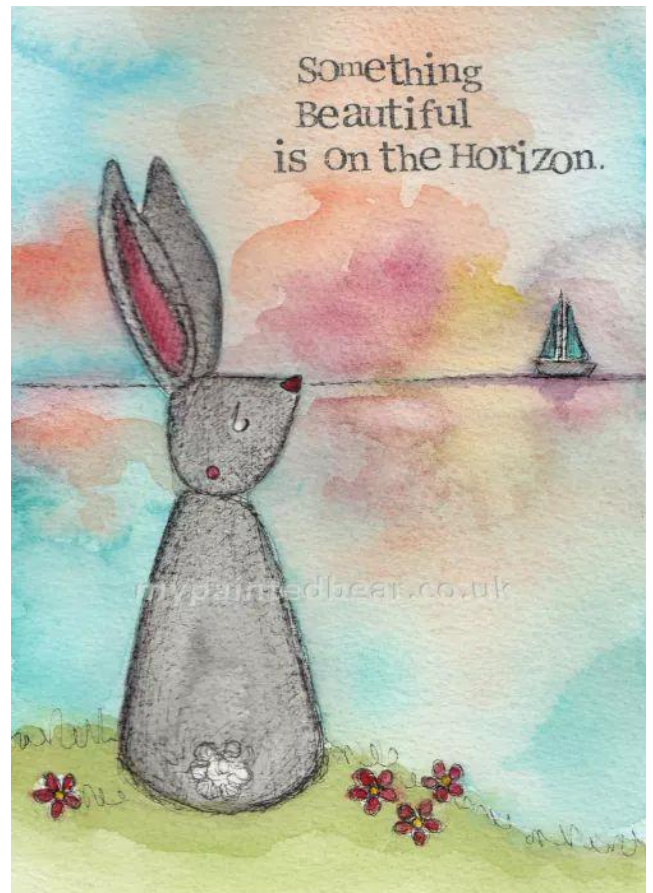
When the time is right, God encourages you to ask for this healing of brokenness in you or in someone else.

The healing may be instantaneous or it may be a process.

That is up to God.

Your part is to trust God's will fully and to thank him, for the restoration has begun.

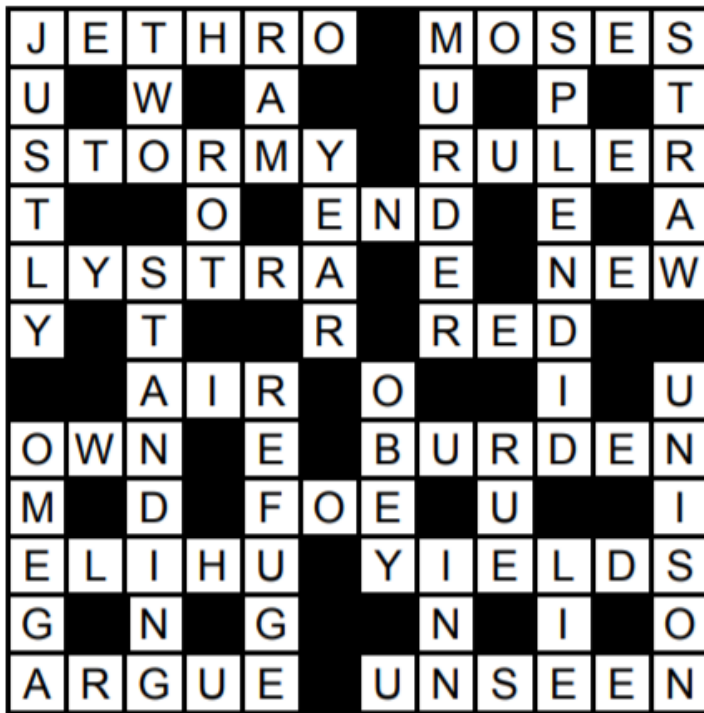
Amen



We continue to pray for Gordon and Christine Salmon, Ken Kitchen, Ann Wells, Dave Bedford and Pat Fagan.

We also pray for all those who need our prayers, especially Wendy Doig and family.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Across: 1 Jethro, 4 Moses, 7 Stormy, 10 Ruler, 11 End, 12 Lystra, 14 New, 15 Red, 16 Air, 20 Own, 21 Burden, 23 Foe, 24 Elihu, 25 Yields, 28 Argue, 29 Unseen.

Down: 1 Justly, 2 Two, 3 Ram, 4 Murder, 5 Splendid, 6 Straw, 8 Rot, 9 Year, 13 Standing, 17 Refuge, 18 Obey, 19 Unison, 20 Omega, 22 Rue, 26 Inn, 27 Lie.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.com

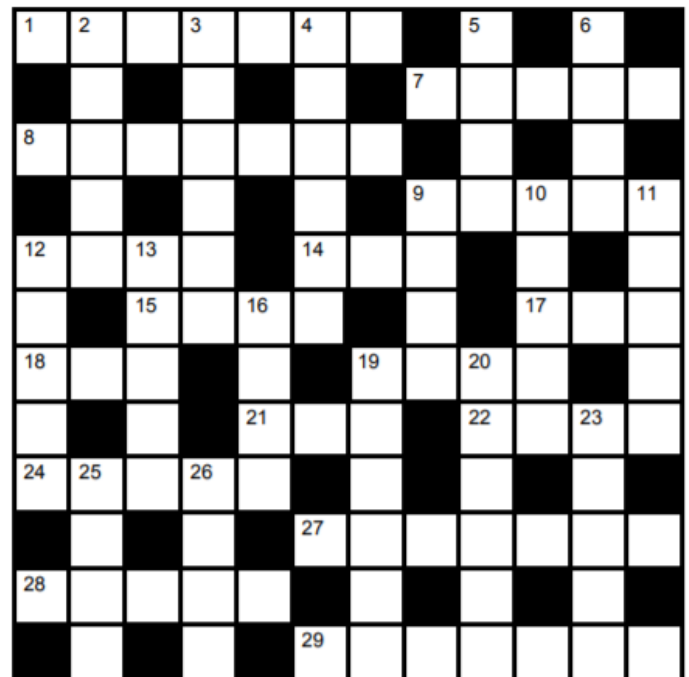
THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Story of Jesus (7)
- 7 Roman Procurator (5)
- 8 Early Christian city (7)
- 9 Propose (5)
- 12 Appeal (4)
- 14 Greater light (3)
- 15 Secret plan (4)
- 17 Pot (3)
- 18 Fire remnant (3)
- 19 Yoked pair (4)
- 21 Thief (3)
- 22 Lazy (4)
- 24 Walls (5)
- 27 Bathsheba, when David saw her (7)
- 28 Flat (5)
- 29 Loosening (7)

Down

- 2 Bring to naught (5)
- 3 Ark passenger (6)
- 4 Pest (6)
- 5 Not hearing (4)
- 6 Last supper drink (4)
- 9 Precious stone (4)
- 10 Lost no more (5)
- 11 Run under water (5)
- 12 Talks to God (5)
- 13 Sacred vestment (5)
- 16 Belonging to us (4)
- 19 Acquire (6)
- 20 Moses' age when he spoke to Pharaoh (6)
- 23 Sheets (5)
- 25 Land in the water (4)
- 26 Wicked (4)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.com

Special Projects Group - Family Film Night

A BIG thank you to everyone who helped organise the event, supported us by being there or who gave us a donation too. It was a lovely evening which we all thoroughly enjoyed and, so far, we have raised £171 which is marvellous!

Watch this space for future events and come and join the fun.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Dear God, through autumn's beauty

All: Shine your light into all our lives

Leader: In autumn's unpredictable weather

All: Speak to all of us of your steadfastness

Leader: In autumn's melancholy

All: Bless all of us with your kindness

Leader: As autumn darkens, we anticipate the Advent hope which will at length arrive

All: May we all hear your call to make way for Jesus

Hymn: StF 139 'Today I awake' Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

<https://youtu.be/2uAGtJiooKE>

Today I awake and God is before me.

At night, as I dreamt, he summoned the day;
for God never sleeps but patterns the morning
with slithers of gold or glory in grey.

Today I arise and Christ is beside me.

He walked through the dark to scatter new light.

Yes, Christ is alive, and beckons his people
to hope and to heal, resist, and invite.

Today I affirm the Spirit within me

at worship and work, in struggle and rest.

The Spirit inspires all life which is changing
from fearing to faith, from broken to blest.

Today I enjoy the Trinity round me,

above and beneath, before and behind;

the Maker, the Son, the Spirit together --

they called me to life and call me their friend.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)

Prayer

Let us pray together to our generous God who abides with us, inhabits this broken world with us
and loves us beyond measure.

Leader: When we struggle to love ourselves,

All: Lord, you love us completely

Leader: When we struggle to believe in ourselves,

All: Lord, you believe in us completely

Leader: When we struggle to forgive ourselves,

All: Lord, you forgive us completely

Leader: In this time of worship,

All: May we dare to trust your dreams for our lives because you hold us in your embrace. Amen

Old Testament Reading: ISAIAH 43 1-3a

New Testament Reading: COLOSSIANS 3 15-17

Time to Reflect

October

Dark mornings have arrived and where I walk, early each morning, meeting familiar people has become more important. Some are known by name – like Russell and Jean, John and Duncan, Stuart and Richard and Marjorie. Some are known only by their dogs – Bailey and Barney and Jack. Some are simply familiar faces of walkers and joggers, horse riders and cyclists. All are welcome in the darker mornings. Skies can be spectacular –spectacularly grey, full of rain present and future; or with streaks of bright orange and red promising wind for later. Days grow shorter, as trees begin to welcome autumn with shades reminiscent of crab apple jelly and cranberry sauce, caramel and cinder toffee, chocolate limes and sherbet lemons. But when the sun shines, beech trees stand out from the crowd in their bronzy brilliance. Birds are back after their sleepy summer – blackbirds and robins, sparrows and collared doves. There are only hints of summer now, but life in human, canine and feathered form is present to be celebrated.

I wrote this reflection – brought together here as prose instead of poetry – when suffering from depression. Autumn is a kind of in between time in church, when it's easy to feel low, on the edge, in the shadows. But Jesus embraces all of us, calling us by our name and encouraging us to call one another by our names; to welcome one another and be glad of one another; to smile and be thankful for the company of his people. We aren't perfect – we are who and what we are – but Jesus has given the Spirit to bind us together in every season, of the church and of our lives, to dance and sing and be silent in thankfulness – together.

Take a time to sit quietly

We come now to prayers of intercession.

Loving God, your kingdom is a kingdom of justice and mercy. We pray for the leaders of the nations, for change where power is exploited; for strength of will and vision where there is real effort to be generous and fair. Today, we pray especially for all countries with inadequate supplies of vaccines

Your kingdom come. **Your will be done.**

Loving God, your kingdom is a kingdom of hope and joy. We pray for those near and far who are not well in body, mind or spirit - who are feeling sad, anxious, ill, forgotten, who feel on the edge of things, who are homeless or whose land is ravaged by fighting or disaster who are poor, hungry and in despair.

Your kingdom come. **Your will be done.**

Loving God, your kingdom is one of love and unity. We pray for your church, here and across the world, that we might be signs of your loving presence adding to a momentum of your inclusive, enfolding grace

Your kingdom come. **Your will be done.**

Loving God, your kingdom is one of light and life. We pray that we might, with deep thankfulness, dwell in the light and life of Jesus Christ, come to bring fullness of life to all.

Your kingdom come. **Your will be done. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer Our Father

Hymn: StF 468 'I was on your mind' [I was on your mind \(StF 468\) \(methodist.org.uk\)](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

I was on your mind long before you formed the earth.
By your grace you gave me life; I was on your mind.

Take me by the hand, lead me down your paths of truth.
Mark my ways with peace and love; I am on your mind.

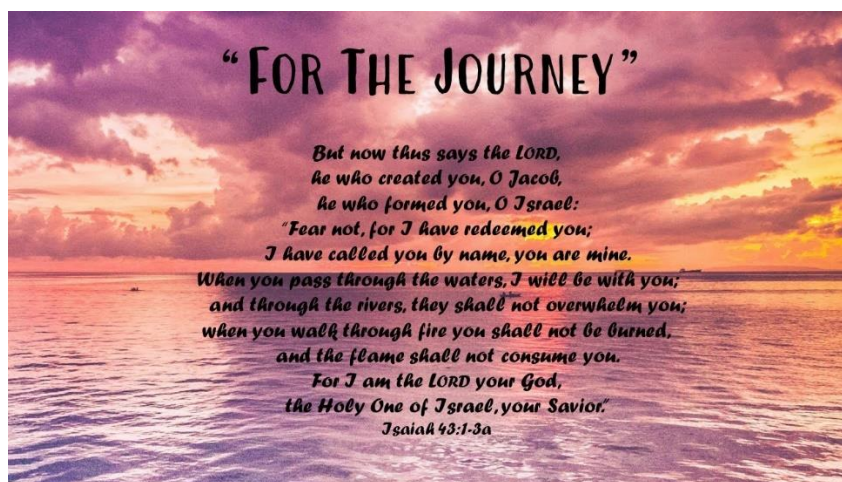
You know all my thoughts and ways, show me more of yours.
All I am is all I have, in this gift of life.
Mick Dalton

A prayer of blessing

Jesus calls us by name, invites us each one into a future filled with light, love and fulness of life.
May his blessing rest on us all. **Amen.**

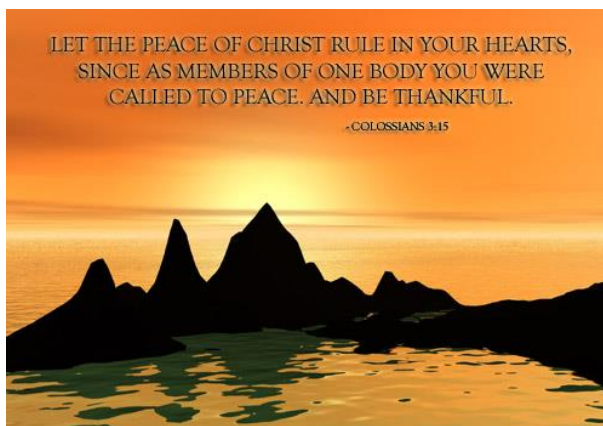
Old Testament reading: Isaiah 43 1-3a

But now, this what the Lord says – he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:
‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.
3 For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.



New Testament reading: Colossians 3 15-17

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.
16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.
17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES'

There are now 3 ways in which you can enjoy our Sunday morning services.

- By booking a place and attending St James'
- Via telephone
- Via Zoom



All details and information are below.

Please use the Zoom link below

Joining from 10.15 for a 10.30 am start –

Either click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5913455610?pwd=aVdZcFpaZVVaMDdsZ1BiR3lhRE1yQTo9>

Meeting ID: 591 345 5610

Passcode: 12466

We hope to see you there.

If you want to listen in to the Service on Sunday, dial the above number, then PIN and listen in. You can chat up to 10.30, but when the service starts everyone will be “muted” to avoid feedback/noise.

**Also from St. James Church:- Invitation to Telephone Worship
(And every Sunday until the end of November)**

This Sunday our preacher will be Revd. Peter Hughes.

To join us for a short (15-20 minutes) Act of Worship :

Between 2.20pm and 2.30pm on Sunday:

From your normal “landline” telephone: Dial: 0333-006-7775

On being asked, enter the following number, or “Pin”: 08 39 09 01

You will be able to chat with everyone else who joins until the service starts.

This Sunday’s Act of Worship, or short service, will comprise:

The Host for this service is Graham Martin

Order of Worship:

- **Welcome and notices:**
- **Opening prayer**
- **Bible reading**
- **Lord’s Prayer**
- **Talk or “mini-sermon”**
- **Prayers**
- **Grace and dismissal.**



COST: - The above number costs the same to dial as ordinary UK numbers – if you have “free minutes” from your telephone supplier then there will be no cost.

God Bless Graham Martin

Communications officer (and local preacher) St. James Church

[Call me on 0151-222-5832 or 07712-525239 if you have any questions.

PROGRAMMES YOU MAY ENJOY – Sunday 24th October

6:00 – 9:30 a.m. Radio Merseyside: Daybreak

Helen Jones brings you the Sunday magazine reflecting Merseyside's worlds of faith.

Radio 4: Sunday Worship. 8:10 a.m. A Haven for an Emperor

An Ethiopian Orthodox Sunday Worship featuring excerpts from a service at Bath Abbey to reflect the legacy and impact of the Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie I on the city of Bath.

13.15 BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Church Island

Aled Jones visits Anglesey's Church Island, a holy place for over 1,000 years, and meets Brenda Fogg, known as the Angel of Llandudno for housing the homeless.

The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse - Motivational Quote of The Week:



NEWSLETTER NOTICES NEXT WEEK



If you would like to share anything with your Church family in this newsletter including any birthdays, celebrations, or anyone to include in our prayers, please let me know.

Please send any messages to Jayne McLaren at

jayniemac@hotmail.co.uk

